

# A BIJECTIVE PROOF OF A FACTORIZATION FORMULA FOR MACDONALD POLYNOMIALS AT ROOTS OF UNITY

F. DESCOUENS, H. MORITA AND Y. NUMATA

**ABSTRACT.** We give a combinatorial proof of the factorization formula of modified Macdonald polynomials  $\tilde{H}_\lambda(X; q, t)$  when  $t$  is specialized at a primitive root of unity. Our proof is restricted to the special case where  $\lambda$  is a two columns partition. We mainly use the combinatorial interpretation of Haiman, Haglund and Loehr giving the expansion of  $\tilde{H}_\lambda(X; q, t)$  on the monomial basis.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The different versions of Macdonald polynomials have been intensively studied from a combinatorial and algebraic approach since their introduction in [M1]. These polynomials are deformations with two parameters of usual symmetric functions and generalize the Hall-Littlewood functions. We are mainly interested in the modified version of Macdonald polynomials  $\tilde{H}_\lambda(X; q, t)$ . In [HHL], Haglund, Haiman and Loehr give a combinatorial interpretation of the expansion of these modified Macdonald polynomials in the monomial basis. This combinatorial interpretation is based on the definition of two statistics  $inv(T)$  and  $maj(T)$  on the set  $\mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu}$  of all the fillings  $T$  of a given shape  $\mu$  and evaluation  $\nu$ . Hence, we have the following formula

$$\tilde{H}_\mu(X; q, t) = \sum_{\nu} \left( \sum_{T \in \mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu}} q^{inv(T)} t^{maj(T)} \right) X^T .$$

In [DM], the authors give an algebraic proof of factorization formulas for these polynomials, when the parameter  $t$  is specialized at primitive roots of unity. More precisely, for any positive integer  $n$  and any partition  $\mu$  such that  $\mu = (\mu', n^l, \mu'')$ , we have

$$(1) \quad \tilde{H}_\mu(X; q, \zeta_l) = \tilde{H}_{(\mu', \mu'')}(X; q, \zeta_l) \cdot \tilde{H}_{(n^l)}(X; q, \zeta_l) ,$$

where  $\zeta_l$  is an  $l$ -th primitive root of unity. We propose to give a combinatorial proof of this formula in the special case where  $\mu'' = \emptyset$  and  $n = 1$  or  $2$ .

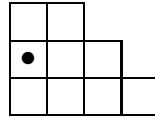
## 2. COMBINATORIAL INTERPRETATION FOR MACDONALD POLYNOMIALS

We mainly follow the notations of [M2] for symmetric functions. We recall the combinatorial interpretation of the expansion of modified Macdonald polynomials on the monomials basis given in [HHL].

A partition  $\lambda$  is a sequence of positive integers  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  such that  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ . We represent such a partition by its Young diagram using the French convention. For a given

cell  $u$  of  $\lambda$ , the arm of  $u$ , denoted by  $\text{arm}(u)$ , is the number of cells strictly to the right of  $u$ . The leg of  $u$ , denoted by  $\text{leg}(u)$ , is the number of cells strictly above  $u$ .

**Example 2.1.** *The partition  $(4, 3, 2)$  can be represented by the following diagram*



For the cell  $\bullet$ , we have  $\text{arm}(\bullet) = 2$  and  $\text{leg}(\bullet) = 1$ .

We call  $T$  a filling of shape  $\lambda$  if  $T$  is a tableau obtained by assigning integer entries to the cells of the diagram of  $\lambda$  with no increasing conditions. The evaluation of a filling  $T$  is the vector where the  $i$ -th entry is the number of cells labeled by  $i$  in  $T$ . The set of all the fillings of shape  $\lambda$  and evaluation  $\mu$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_{\lambda, \mu}$ .

A descent of a filling  $T$  is a pair of cells satisfying the following condition

$$T_{i+1,j} > T_{i,j} .$$

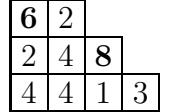
For a given filling  $T$ , we define the set  $\text{Des}(T)$  of the descents of  $T$  by

$$\text{Des}(T) = \{ T_{i+1,j} \text{ such that } T_{i+1,j} > T_{i,j} \} .$$

The statistic  $\text{maj}(T)$  is defined by

$$\text{maj}(T) = \sum_{u \in \text{Des}(T)} (\text{leg}(u) + 1) .$$

**Example 2.2.** *The following tableau is a filling of shape  $(4, 3, 2)$  and evaluation  $(1, 2, 1, 3, 0, 1, 0, 1)$ :*



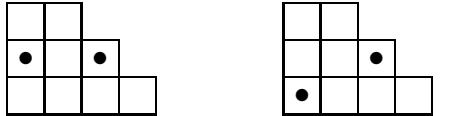
The descent set of this filling is  $\text{Des}(T) = \{ (3, 1), (2, 3) \}$ . Hence,

$$\text{maj}(T) = 2 .$$

Two cells of a filling are said to attack each other if either

- (1) they are in the same row, or
- (2) they are in consecutive rows, with the cell in the upper row strictly to the right of the one in the lower row.

**Example 2.3.** *The following picture shows the two kinds of attacking cells:*



The reading order of a filling is the row by row reading from top to bottom and left to right within each row. A pair  $(u, v)$  of cells is an inversion if they satisfy the three following conditions:

- (1) they are attacking each others,

- (2)  $T_u < T_v$ , and
- (3) the cell  $v$  appears before the cell  $u$  in the reading order.

The number of inversions of  $T$  is denoted by  $\text{Inv}(T)$ . The statistic  $\text{inv}(T)$  is defined by

$$\text{inv}(T) = \text{Inv}(T) - \sum_{u \in \text{Des}(T)} \text{arm}(u) .$$

**Example 2.4.** For the filling  $T$  of Example 2.2, we have  $\text{inv}(T) = 8 - 1 = 7$ .

**Theorem 2.5** ([HHL]). *The modified Macdonald polynomial  $\tilde{H}_\mu(x; q, t)$  has a description as the following weighted generating function over fillings of shape  $\mu$*

$$\tilde{H}_\mu(X; q, t) := \sum_{\nu} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu}} q^{\text{inv}(T)} t^{\text{maj}(T)} X^T ,$$

where the sum is over all the compositions  $\nu$  of size  $|\mu|$ .

**Theorem 2.6** ([DM]). *For any positive integer  $n$  and any partition  $\mu$  such that  $\mu = (\mu', n^l, \mu'')$ , we have*

$$\tilde{H}_\mu(X; q, \zeta_l) = \tilde{H}_{(\mu', \mu'')}(X; q, \zeta_l) \cdot \tilde{H}_{(n^l)}(X; q, \zeta_l) ,$$

where  $\zeta_l$  is an  $l$ -th primitive root of unity.

We now give some technical definitions on fillings, which are needed later in our proof.

**Definition 2.7.** *For any partition  $\mu$ , we define the sets  $\text{Att}_i(\mu)$  and  $\text{Att}_{i,i-1}(\mu)$  of pairs of boxes of  $\mu$  by*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Att}_i(\mu) &:= \{ ((i, j), (i, k)) \mid 1 \leq j < k \leq \mu_i \} , \\ \text{Att}_{i,i-1}(\mu) &:= \{ ((i, j), (i-1, k)) \mid 1 \leq j < k \leq \mu_i \} . \end{aligned}$$

The union of these two sets gives us the attacking cells of  $\mu$  coming from its  $i$ -th row.

**Definition 2.8.** *For a filling  $T$  of shape  $\mu$ , we define the set  $\text{Des}_{i,i-1}(T)$  of pairs of boxes of  $\mu$  by*

$$\text{Des}_{i,i-1}(T) := \{ (i, j) \in \mu \mid T_{i,j} > T_{i-1,j} \} .$$

This set is the restriction of the descents set  $\text{Des}(T)$  to the descents which occurs in the  $i$ -th row of  $\mu$ . Let us now define the following restrictions of the quantities  $\sum_{u \in \text{Des}(T)} \text{arm}(u)$  and  $\sum_{u \in \text{Des}(T)} \text{leg}(u)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{arm}_{i,i-1}(T) &:= \sum_{b \in \text{Des}_{i,i-1}(T)} \text{arm}(b) , \\ \text{maj}_{i,i-1}(T) &:= \sum_{b \in \text{Des}_{i,i-1}(T)} (1 + \text{leg}(b)) . \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2.9.** For the following filling  $T$

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 |   |
| 4 | 7 |
| 3 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 |

the set  $\text{Des}_{3,2}(T) = \{ (3, 1), (3, 2) \}$  consists of the boxes where 4 and 7 lie. The sets  $\text{Des}_{2,1}(T)$  and  $\text{Des}_{4,3}(T)$  are reduced to the empty set. Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{arm}_{3,2}(T) &= 1 + 0 = 1, & \text{arm}_{2,1}(T) = \text{arm}_{4,3}(T) &= 0, \\ \text{maj}_{3,2}(T) &= 2 + 1 = 3, & \text{maj}_{2,1}(T) = \text{maj}_{4,3}(T) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 2.10.** We define the subset  $\text{Inv}_i(T)$  (resp.  $\text{Inv}_{i,i-1}(T)$ ) of  $\text{Att}_i(T)$  (resp.  $\text{Att}_{i,i-1}(T)$ ) by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Inv}_i(T) &:= \{ (b, c) \in \text{Att}_i(\mu) \mid T_b > T_c \} , \\ \text{Inv}_{i,i-1}(T) &:= \{ (b, c) \in \text{Att}_{i,i-1}(\mu) \mid T_b > T_c \} . \end{aligned}$$

The union of these sets gives us the inversions of  $T$  which are coming from the  $i$ -th row of  $\mu$ . Let now define the corresponding restriction of the statistic  $\text{inv}(T)$  by

$$\text{inv}_{i,i-1}(T) := |\text{Inv}_i(T)| + |\text{Inv}_{i,i-1}(T)| - \text{arm}_{i,i-1}(T).$$

**Example 2.11.** For the filling  $T$  of Example 2.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Inv}_2(T) &= \{ (2, 1), (2, 2) \} , & \text{Inv}_1(T) = \text{Inv}_3(T) = \text{Inv}_4(T) &= \emptyset, \\ \text{Inv}_{3,2}(T) &= \{ (2, 1), (3, 2) \} , & \text{Inv}_{2,1}(T) = \text{Inv}_{4,3}(T) &= \emptyset . \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{inv}_{2,1}(T) &= 1 + 0 - 0 = 1, \\ \text{inv}_{3,2}(T) &= 0 + 1 - 1 = 0, \\ \text{inv}_{4,3}(T) &= 0 + 0 - 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using all these restrictions, we can express the statistics  $\text{maj}(T)$  and  $\text{inv}(T)$  by

$$\text{maj}(T) := \sum_{i=2}^{l(\mu)} \text{maj}_{i,i-1}(T) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{inv}(T) := |\text{Inv}_1(T)| + \sum_{i=2}^{l(\mu)} \text{inv}_{i,i-1}(T).$$

**Example 2.12.** Let  $T$  be the filling of Example 2.9. From computations of Examples 2.9 and 2.11, we obtain the following statistics

$$\text{maj}(T) = 0 + 3 + 0 = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{inv}(T) = 0 + (1 + 0 + 0) = 1.$$

### 3. MAIN RESULTS

For two compositions  $\nu' = (\nu'_1, \dots, \nu'_k)$  and  $\nu'' = (\nu''_1, \dots, \nu''_k)$ ,  $\nu' + \nu''$  denotes the composition  $(\nu'_1 + \nu''_1, \dots, \nu'_k + \nu''_k)$ . Let  $\mu$  be a partition such that  $\mu = (\mu', n^l, \mu'')$  such that  $\mu'_{l(\mu')} \geq n$

and  $\mu_1'' \leq n$ . In order to prove combinatorially Theorem 2.6, we have to define two bijections  $\tau$  and  $\pi^*$  between different sets of fillings

$$\begin{cases} \tau: & \mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu}, \\ \pi^*: & \mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu} \longrightarrow \bigcup_{\nu=\nu'+\nu''} \mathcal{F}_{(\mu', \mu''), \nu'} \times \mathcal{F}_{(n^l), \nu''}, \end{cases}$$

with

$$\begin{cases} \text{maj}(\tau(T)) \equiv \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) \pmod{l}, \\ \text{inv}(\tau(T)) = \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)). \end{cases}$$

The definition of the statistics  $\text{maj}$  and  $\text{inv}$  are extended on couples of fillings by

$$\begin{cases} \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) := \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)_1) + \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)_2), \\ \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)) := \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)_1) + \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)_2). \end{cases}$$

We restrict ourselves to the case  $n = 1$  or  $2$  and Young diagrams  $\mu$  with tails, i.e.,

$$\mu = (\mu', n^l) \quad \text{and} \quad \mu'_{l(\mu')} \geq n.$$

Hence, the factorization formula (1) becomes

$$\tilde{H}_{(\mu', n^l)}(X; q, \zeta_l) = \tilde{H}_{\mu'}(X; q, \zeta_l) \cdot \tilde{H}_{(n^l)}(X; q, \zeta_l).$$

For the factorization in the case when  $n = 1$  or  $2$ , we give a bijective proofs in Theorems 3.2 and 3.10, and the proofs are detailed in Section 4.

Let  $\pi: \mu' \cup (n^l) \rightarrow \mu = (\mu', n^l)$  be the natural bijection, i.e.,

$$\begin{cases} \pi(i, j) = (i, j) & \text{if } (i, j) \in \mu', \\ \pi(i, j) = (i + l(\mu'), j) & \text{if } (i, j) \in (n^l). \end{cases}$$

The map  $\pi$  on partitions induces the following bijection on fillings

$$(2) \quad \pi^*: \mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu} \longrightarrow \bigcup_{\nu=\nu'+\nu''} \mathcal{F}_{\mu', \nu'} \times \mathcal{F}_{(n^l), \nu''},$$

defined for all  $T$  in  $\mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu}$  by

$$\begin{cases} (\pi^*(T))_1 = (T_{i,j})_{(i,j) \in \mu'}, \\ (\pi^*(T))_2 = (T_{i+l(\mu'),j})_{(i,j) \in (n^l)}. \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 3.1.** *For a filling  $T$  of shape  $\mu$ , let  $(T', T'')$  be an element of  $\mathcal{F}_{\mu', \nu'} \times \mathcal{F}_{(n^l), \nu''}$  satisfying the condition  $\pi^*(T) = (T', T'')$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^{*-1}(\text{Des}_{i+1,i}(T)) &= \text{Des}_{i+1,i}(T'), & \pi^{*-1}(\text{Des}_{k+i+1,k+i}(T)) &= \text{Des}_{i+1,i}(T''), \\ \pi^{*-1}(\text{Inv}_{i+1,i}(T)) &= \text{Inv}_{i+1,i}(T'), & \pi^{*-1}(\text{Inv}_{k+i+1,k+i}(T)) &= \text{Inv}_{i+1,i}(T''), \\ \pi^{*-1}(\text{Inv}_i(T)) &= \text{Inv}_i(T'), & \pi^{*-1}(\text{Inv}_{k+i}(T)) &= \text{Inv}_i(T''). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have the following equations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{maj}_{i,i-1}(T) &= \text{maj}_{i,i-1}(T') + l \cdot |\text{Des}_{i,i-1}(T')|, & \text{maj}_{k+i,k+i-1}(T) &= \text{maj}_{i,i-1}(T''), \\ \text{inv}_{i,i-1}(T) &= \text{inv}_{i,i-1}(T'), & \text{inv}_{k+i,k+i-1}(T) &= \text{inv}_{i,i-1}(T''). \end{aligned}$$

This implies the following expression for  $\text{maj}(T)$  and  $\text{inv}(T)$

$$\begin{cases} \text{maj}(T) & \equiv \text{maj}(T') + \text{maj}(T'') + \text{maj}_{l(\mu')+1,l(\mu')}(T) \pmod{l}, \\ \text{inv}(T) & = \text{inv}(T') + \text{inv}(T'') + |\text{Inv}_{l(\mu')+1,l(\mu')}(T)| - \text{arm}_{l(\mu')+1,l(\mu')}(T). \end{cases}$$

**3.1. The case  $n=1$ .** Let  $\mu$  be a partition of the form  $\mu = (\mu'_1, \dots, \mu'_k, 1^l)$ . In this special case, we have

$$\text{Att}_{k+1,k} = \emptyset \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Inv}_{k+1,k}(T) = \emptyset.$$

The cell  $b = (k+1, 1) \in \mu$  is the unique candidate for being an element of  $\text{Des}_{k+1,k}(T)$ . Hence

$$\text{arm}(b) = 0.$$

Consequently  $\text{arm}_{k+1,k}(T) = 0$  and  $\text{inv}(T) = \text{inv}(\pi(T))$ .

Since  $\text{maj}_{k+1,k}(T) = l |\text{Des}_{k+1,k}(T)|$  and  $\text{maj}_{k+1,k}(T) \equiv 0 \pmod{l}$ , we have

$$\text{maj}(T) \equiv \text{maj}(\pi(T)) \pmod{l}.$$

Hence, we can take the identity map  $id$  for  $\tau$  in order to obtain a combinatorial proof of Theorem 2.6 in the case  $n = 1$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *For a partition  $\mu = (\mu'_1, \dots, \mu'_k, 1^l)$ , let  $\pi: \mu' \cup (1^l) \rightarrow \mu$  be the natural bijection and  $\pi^*: \mathcal{F}_{\mu,\nu} \rightarrow \bigcup \mathcal{F}_{\mu',\nu'} \times \mathcal{F}_{(1^l),\nu''}$  be the bijection induced by  $\pi$  as defined in (2). Let  $\tau$  be the identity map on  $\mathcal{F}_{\mu,\nu}$ . Then  $\pi^*$  and  $\tau$  satisfy*

$$\begin{cases} \text{maj}(\tau(T)) & \equiv \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) \pmod{l}, \\ \text{inv}(\tau(T)) & = \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)). \end{cases}$$

**Example 3.3.** Let us consider the case  $l = 3$  and  $\mu = (2, 2, 1, 1, 1)$ . In this case, we have

$$\text{maj} \left( \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right) = 1 + 3 + 4 + 1 = 9, \quad \text{maj} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) + \text{maj} \left( \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{array} \right) = (1 + 1) + 1 = 3,$$

$$\text{inv} \left( \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \right) = 1 - 1 = 0, \quad \text{inv} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) + \text{inv} \left( \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{array} \right) = (1 - 1) + 0 = 0.$$

**3.2. The case  $n = 2$ .** First we determine two conditions in order to define the appropriate  $\tau$ . We first define some technical conditions on fillings which we will permit us to define the elementary steps of Algorithm 3.7.

**Definition 3.4** (Condition  $xAx$ ). *A filling  $\begin{array}{c|c} a & b \\ \hline A & \end{array}$  satisfies the condition  $xAx$  if one of the following conditions holds*

$$a \leq A < b \quad \text{or} \quad b \leq A < a.$$

**Definition 3.5** (Condition  $xXxX$ ). A filling  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & B \\ \hline \end{array}$  satisfies the condition  $xXxX$  if one of the following conditions holds

$$\begin{array}{ll} a \leq A < b \leq B , & A < b \leq B < a , \\ b \leq A < a \leq B , & A < a \leq B < b , \\ a \leq B < b \leq A , & B < b \leq A < a , \\ b \leq B < a \leq A , & B < a \leq A < b . \end{array}$$

**Proposition 3.6.** We have the following property on the conditions  $xAx$  and  $xXxX$

- (1) If a filling  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & \\ \hline \end{array}$  satisfies the condition  $xAx$ , then  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline b & a \\ \hline A & \\ \hline \end{array}$  also satisfies the condition  $xAx$ ,
- (2) If a filling  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & B \\ \hline \end{array}$  satisfies the condition  $xXxX$ , then  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline b & a \\ \hline B & A \\ \hline \end{array}$  also satisfies the condition  $xXxX$ .

We give an algorithm which permits to determine  $\tau$  for any filling of shape  $\mu = (\mu'_1, \dots, \mu'_k, 2^l)$  with  $\mu'_k \geq 2$ .

**Algorithm 3.7** (Definition of  $\tau$ ).

- **Input:** A filling  $T$  and  $k$ .
- **Procedure**
  - ▷ Initialization of variables
    - (a)  $i \leftarrow k$ ,
    - (b)  $T' \leftarrow T$ .
  - ▷ If the  $i$ -th row and the  $(i+1)$ -th row of  $T'$  satisfy the condition  $xAx$  do
    - (a) swap the two values in the  $(i+1)$ -th row of  $T'$ ,
    - (b)  $i \leftarrow i+1$ .
else return  $T'$ .
  - ▷ While the  $i$ -th row and the  $(i+1)$ -th row of  $T'$  satisfy the condition  $xXxX$  do
    - (a) swap the two values in  $(i+1)$ -th row of  $T'$ ,
    - (b)  $i \leftarrow i+1$ .
- **Output:** The filling  $T'$ .

**Example 3.8.** For  $l = 5$  and the following filling  $T$ , the steps of the algorithm are

$$T = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 & \\ \hline 3 & 5 & \\ \hline 2 & 6 & \\ \hline 1 & 3 & \\ \hline \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{4} & \\ \hline 3 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 & \\ \hline 3 & 5 & \\ \hline 2 & 6 & \\ \hline \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{3} & \\ \hline 4 & 2 & \\ \hline 3 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 & \\ \hline 3 & 5 & \\ \hline \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{6} & \\ \hline 3 & 1 & \\ \hline 4 & 2 & \\ \hline 3 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 & \\ \hline 3 & 5 & \\ \hline 6 & 2 & \\ \hline 3 & 1 & \\ \hline 4 & 2 & \\ \hline 3 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} = \tau(T) .$$

We have put in bold the cells which occur at each step of the algorithm. The first step corresponds to the condition  $xAx$  and the others to the condition  $xXxX$ .

**Proposition 3.9.** *The application  $\tau$  determined by the Algorithm 3.7 is an involution and a bijection.*

*Proof.* The fact that  $\tau$  is an involution follows directly from Proposition 3.6. Moreover, as each step of the Algorithm 3.7 is invertible, the map  $\tau$  is a bijection on  $\mathcal{F}_{\mu, \nu}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10.** *For a partition  $\mu = (\mu'_1, \dots, \mu'_k, 2^l)$  such that  $\mu'_k \geq 2$ , let  $\pi^*$  be the natural bijection defined in (2), and  $\tau$  be the involution determined by Algorithm 3.7. Then  $\pi^*$  and  $\tau$  satisfy*

$$\begin{cases} \text{maj}(\tau(T)) \equiv \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) \pmod{l}, \\ \text{inv}(\tau(T)) = \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)). \end{cases}$$

**Example 3.11.** Let  $l = 5$  and  $T$  be the filling of Example 3.8. For the statistic  $\text{maj}$ , we have

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maj}(\tau(T)) = \text{maj} \left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{1 \ 4} \\ \boxed{3 \ 5} \\ \boxed{6 \ 2} \\ \boxed{3 \ 1} \\ \boxed{4 \ 2} \\ \boxed{3 \ 3 \ 3} \\ \boxed{4 \ 4 \ 4} \end{array} \right) = 13, \\ \text{and} \\ \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) = \text{maj} \left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{3 \ 3 \ 3} \\ \boxed{4 \ 4 \ 4} \end{array} \right) + \text{maj} \left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{1 \ 4} \\ \boxed{3 \ 5} \\ \boxed{6 \ 2} \\ \boxed{3 \ 1} \\ \boxed{4 \ 2} \end{array} \right) = 0 + 8 = 8 \equiv 13 \pmod{5}. \end{array} \right.$$

And for the statistic  $\text{inv}$ , we have

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maj}(\tau(T)) = \text{inv} \left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{1 \ 4} \\ \boxed{3 \ 5} \\ \boxed{6 \ 2} \\ \boxed{3 \ 1} \\ \boxed{4 \ 2} \\ \boxed{3 \ 3 \ 3} \\ \boxed{4 \ 4 \ 4} \end{array} \right) = 2, \\ \text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) = \text{inv} \left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{3 \ 3 \ 3} \\ \boxed{4 \ 4 \ 4} \end{array} \right) + \text{inv} \left( \begin{array}{c} \boxed{1 \ 4} \\ \boxed{3 \ 5} \\ \boxed{6 \ 2} \\ \boxed{3 \ 1} \\ \boxed{4 \ 2} \end{array} \right) = 0 + 2 = 2. \end{array} \right.$$

#### 4. PROOF OF THE MAIN THEOREM

In order to prove Theorem 3.10, i.e

$$\text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) \equiv \text{maj}(\tau(T)) \pmod{l} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{inv}(\pi^*(T)) = \text{inv}(\tau(T)),$$

we present the following five technical lemmas which follow from direct computations.

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $T = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & \square \\ \hline \end{array}$  and  $T' = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline b & a \\ \hline A & \square \\ \hline \end{array}$ . If  $T$  satisfies the condition  $xAx$ , then

$$|\text{Inv}_2(T)| = \text{inv}_{2,1}(T') .$$

**Lemma 4.2.** If a filling  $T = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & \square \\ \hline \end{array}$  does not satisfy the condition  $xAx$ , then

$$|\text{Inv}_2(T)| = \text{inv}_{2,1}(T) .$$

**Lemma 4.3.** Let  $T = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & B \\ \hline \end{array}$  and  $T' = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline B & A \\ \hline \end{array}$  be two fillings such that  $T$  satisfies one of the following conditions

$$\begin{array}{ll} a, b \leq A, B , & a \leq A, B < b , \\ A, B < a, b , & b \leq A, B < a . \end{array}$$

Hence, we have the following relations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Des}_{2,1}(T) &= \text{Des}_{2,1}(T') , \\ \text{Inv}_{2,1}(T) &= \text{Inv}_{2,1}(T') , \\ \text{Inv}_2(T) &= \text{Inv}_2(T') . \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $T = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & B \\ \hline \end{array}$  and  $T' = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline B & A \\ \hline \end{array}$  be two fillings such that  $T$  satisfies one of the following conditions

$$\begin{array}{l} A < a, b \leq B , \\ B < a, b \leq A . \end{array}$$

Hence, we have

$$|\text{Des}_{2,1}(T)| = |\text{Des}_{2,1}(T')| \quad \text{and} \quad \text{inv}_{2,1}(T) = \text{inv}_{2,1}(T') .$$

**Lemma 4.5.** Let  $T = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & B \\ \hline \end{array}$  and  $T' = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline b & a \\ \hline B & A \\ \hline \end{array}$  be two fillings such that  $T$  satisfies the condition  $xXxX$ . Hence, we have

$$|\text{Des}_{2,1}(T)| = |\text{Des}_{2,1}(T')| \quad \text{and} \quad \text{inv}_{2,1}(T) = \text{inv}_{2,1}(T') .$$

**Lemma 4.6.** Let  $T = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline A & B \\ \hline \end{array}$  be a filling which satisfies  $A \neq B$ . Then,  $T$  satisfies the condition  $xXxX$  or the conditions used in Lemma 4.3 and 4.4.

Lemmas 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 imply the following key lemma.

**Lemma 4.7.** In Algorithm 3.7, the swapping of the value in the  $i+1$ -th row when the  $i$ -th and the  $i+1$ -th rows are in the condition  $xXxX$  does not change the statistic  $\text{maj}_{i+1,i}$  and  $\text{inv}_{i+1,i}$ .

*Proof.* If the  $i$ -th and  $(i+1)$ -th row satisfy the condition  $xXxX$ , then the values of the  $(i+1)$ -th row are different from each other. Using Lemma 4.6, we obtain that the  $i$ -th and

$(i+1)$ -th row satisfy the condition  $xXxX$  or the conditions of Lemma 4.3 and 4.4. Hence, it follows from Lemmas 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 that

$$\text{inv}_{i+1,i}(T) = \text{inv}_{i+1,i}(\tau(T)) .$$

The lemmas also imply  $|\text{Des}_{i+1,i}(T)| = |\text{Des}_{i+1,i}(\tau(T))|$ . In this case,

$$\text{maj}_{i+1,i}(T) = (k+l-i) |\text{Des}_{i+1,i}(T)| \quad \text{and} \quad \text{maj}_{i+1,i}(\tau(T)) = (k+l-i) |\text{Des}_{i+1,i}(\tau(T))| .$$

Finally,

$$\text{maj}_{i+1,i}(T) = \text{maj}_{i+1,i}(\tau(T)) .$$

□

Now we can finish the proof of Theorem 2.6. Lemmas 4.1, 4.2 and 4.7 imply the second statement of the theorem

$$\text{inv}(\pi^*(T)) = \text{inv}(\tau(T)) .$$

It also follows from these lemmas that

$$\text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) + l \cdot |\text{Des}_{k+1,k}(T)| = \text{maj}(\tau(T)) .$$

which implies the first statement on statistic *maj*

$$\text{maj}(\pi^*(T)) \equiv (\tau(T)) \pmod{l} .$$

**Remark 4.8.** We can mention that the  $(q, t)$ -Kostka polynomials  $K_{\lambda, \mu}(q, t)$  (coefficient of the expansion of the modified Macdonald polynomials on the Schur basis) for the special case of two columns partitions  $\mu = (2^r 1^{n-2r})$  have been studied in [S] and combinatorially interpreted with rigged configurations in [F]. An other approach using statistics on Young tableaux has been developed in [Z] and [LM].

## REFERENCES

- [DM] F. Descouens and H. Morita, *Factorization formula for Macdonald polynomials*, European Journal of Combinatorics (to appear).
- [F] S. Fischel, *Statistics for Special  $q, t$ -Kostka polynomials*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. Vol. **123**, No. 10, (1995), pp. 2961-2969.
- [HHL] J. Haglund, M. Haiman and N. Loehr, *A combinatorial formula for Macdonald polynomials*, J. Amer. Math. Soc. **18**, (2005), pp. 195-232.
- [LM] L. Lapointe, J. Morse, *Tableaux statistics for two parts Macdonald polynomials*, preprint math.CO/9812001.
- [M1] I.G. Macdonald, *A new class of symmetric functions*, Actes du 20e Séminaire Lotharingien de Combinatoire, vol. **372/S-20**, Publications I.R.M.A., Strasbourg, (1998), pp. 131-171.
- [M2] I.G. Macdonald, *Symmetric functions and Hall polynomials*, second ed. The Clarendon Press, Oxford University Press, New-York, 1995.
- [S] J.R. Stembridge, *Some particular entries of the two parameter Kostka matrix*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc., **121**, (1994), 367-373.
- [Z] M. Zabrocki, *A Macdonald Vertex Operator and Tableaux Statistics for the Two-Column  $(q, t)$ -Kostka Coefficients*, Electronic Journal of Combinatorics, **5**, R45, (1998), 46p.

(F. Descouens) FIELDS INSTITUTE, 222 COLLEGE STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5T 3J1, CANADA  
*E-mail address:* fdescoue@fields.utoronto.ca

(H. Morita) OYAMA NATIONAL COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, NAKAKUKI 771, OYAMA, 323-0806, JAPAN  
*E-mail address:* morita@oyama-ct.ac.jp

(Y. Numata) DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY, KITA 10, NISHI 8, KITA-KU,  
SAPPORO, HOKKAIDO, 060-0810, JAPAN  
*E-mail address:* nu@math.sci.hokudai.ac.jp